

Message Text

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20

ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SP-03 AID-20 EB-11 NSC-07 RSC-01

CIEP-03 TRSE-00 SS-20 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 FRB-03 INR-11 NSAE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 LAB-06

SIL-01 L-03 H-03 DODE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 /186 R

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R 190012Z SEP 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BANJUL

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECIN, EAID, UV

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SUBJECT: CEAO REQUEST FOR USG ASSISTANCE

REF: OUAGADOUGOU 1877

1. AS ADDRESSEES AWARE, CONSIDERABLE CONTROVERSY EXISTS AMONG WEST AFRICAN NATIONS ON STRUCTURE AND TIMING OF WEST AFRICAN REGIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND POSSIBLE INTEGRATION. SUPPORT FOR CEAO LIMITED TO SOME BUT NOT ALL FRANCOPHONE STATES IN AREA. CRITICAL QUESTION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN FRANCOPHONES AND ANGLOPHONES, ESPECIALLY NIGERIA, REMAINS UNANSWERED.

2. DEPARTMENT BELIEVES ASSISTANCE TO CEAO SECRETARIAT BY USG AGENCIES LIKELY BE VIEWED BY SOME WEST AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS AS USG ENDORSEMENT OF CEAO. SUCH AN APPARENT ENDORSEMENT MIGHT BE RESENTED AND REGARDED AS UNWARRANTED INTERVENTION IN REGIONAL AFFAIRS BY THOSE AREA NATIONS HOSTILE OR LUKEWARM IN THEIR ATTITUDE TO CEAO. WHILE USG STRONGLY SUPPORTS CONCEPT OF REGIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION IN WEST AFRICA, UNTIL THERE IS A MORE BROADLY SHRED CONSENSUS AMONG AREA STATES ON A STRUCTURE FOR THIS REGIONAL COOPERATION, DEPARTMENT BELIEVES USG MUST AVOID GIVING IMPRESSION IT HAS ENDORSED ANY ORGANIZATION SUPPORTED BY ONLY A FRACTION OF STATES IN AREA.

3. DEPARTMENT THEREFORE PROPOSES TO INFORM CEAO SECRETARIAT THAT FOR ABOVE REASON USG UNWILLING AT THIS TIME TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE REQUESTED REFTTEL.

4. ADDRESSEES' COMMENTS INVITED.

5. THIS MESSAGE COORDINATED WITH AID/W. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: cunninfx
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